

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO.

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY Yugoslavia

SUBJECT The Zora Factory in Cernomelj, Slovenia.

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DATE DISTR. 19 JUL 50

NO. OF PAGES 1

25X1A

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ACQUIRED

NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)

DATE OF
INFO.

SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

25X1X

1. The Zora factory for gun stocks is located to the west of the Ljubljana-Metlika railroad, next to the Cernomelj railroad station. Until 1946 it was privately owned by a Czechoslovakian who returned to his country when the factory was nationalized.
2. Until the beginning of the war, as well as in the period between 1946 to 1948, the factory mainly manufactured furniture. In 1948, however, under the pretext of manufacturing furniture, the factory actually began to produce gun stocks for Mauser rifles and various wooden parts for light automatic weapons on an assembly line basis.
3. The factory currently has an output of approximately 1,500 gun stocks per week. It employs some 250 workmen who work in two eight-hour shifts. This number includes women who are engaged in varnishing gun stocks and painting furniture. Three of the most reliable factory workers are entrusted with the constant checking of the gun stocks as to the established size and correct fit of the metal parts of the gun to the wood.
4. All machinery in the factory is of the Siemens-Baumann type and is electrically driven by power obtained from Metlika.
5. Director of the factory is Anton Plun, and the political commissar is Alojz Strojnic. Anton Skubic establishes the factory norm and is in charge of statistics. All three are pre-war Communists.

Document No.	8
No Change in Class.	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Declassified	
Class. Changed To:	TS S 6
Auth:	NR 70-2
Date:	14 JUN 1978
By:	019

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